Ron Howard

Ronald William Howard (born March 1, 1954) is an American director, producer, screenwriter, and actor. He first came to prominence as a child actor, guest-starring in several television series, including an episode of *The Twilight Zone*. He gained national attention for playing young Opie Taylor, the son of Sheriff Andy Taylor (played by Andy Griffith) in the sitcom *The Andy Griffith Show* from 1960 through 1968. During this time, he also appeared in the musical film *The Music Man* (1962), a critical and commercial success. He was credited as **Ronny Howard** in his film and television appearances from 1959 to 1973. Howard was cast in one of the lead roles in the coming-of-age film *American Graffiti* (1973), and became a household name for playing Richie Cunningham in the sitcom *Happy Days*, a role he would play from 1974 to 1980.[1]

In 1980, Howard left *Happy Days* to focus on directing, producing and sometimes writing a variety of films and television series. His films included the comedies *Night Shift* (1982), *Splash* (1984), and *Cocoon* (1985) as well as the fantasy *Willow* (1988), the thriller *Backdraft* (1991), and the newspaper comedy-drama film *The Paper* (1994). In 1995, Howard gained widespread praise and recognition in the historical docudrama *Apollo 13* (1995). He continued directing such films as the biographical drama *A Beautiful Mind* (2001), the biographical sports drama *Cinderella Man* (2005), the historical drama *Frost/Nixon* (2008), the biographical sports drama *Rush* (2013), and the historical adventure film *In the Heart of the Sea* (2015). Howard is also known for directing the children's fantasy film *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (2000) as well as the Robert Langdon film series, *The Da Vinci Code* (2006), *Angels & Demons* (2009), *Inferno* (2016), and *Solo: A Star Wars Story* (2018). He has also directed the documentary films *The Beatles: Eight Days a Week* (2016) and *Pavarotti* (2019).

Howard received the Academy Award for Best Director and Academy Award for Best Picture for *A Beautiful Mind* and was nominated again for the same awards for *Frost/Nixon*.[2][3] In 2003, he was awarded the National Medal of Arts.[4] He was inducted into the Television Hall of Fame in 2013.[5] Howard has two stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for his contributions in the television and motion pictures industries.[6]

Contents

Ron Howard

Howard in 2018

Born	Ronald William Howard March 1, 1954 Duncan, Oklahoma, U.S.
Education	John Burroughs High School
Alma mater	University of Southern California (no degree)
Occupations	Director · producer · screenwriter · actor
Years active	1956–present
Political party	Democratic
Spouse	Cheryl Alley (m. 1975)
Children	4, including Bryce Dallas and Paige
Parent(s)	Rance Howard Jean Speegle
Relatives	Clint Howard (brother)

Early life
Acting career
The Andy Griffith Show
Additional 1960s and early 1970s roles
Happy Days
Directing career
1970s–1980s
1990s
2000s
2010s
2020s
Imagine Entertainment
Personal life
Filmography
Film
Television
Awards and nominations
Citations
General bibliography
External links

Early life

Ron Howard was born on March 1, 1954, in Duncan, Oklahoma, the elder son of Jean Speegle, an actress, and Rance Howard, a director, writer, and actor.[7] He has German, English, Scottish, Irish, and Dutch ancestry.[8][9][10][11][12] His father was born with the surname "Beckenholdt" and took the stage name "Howard" in 1948 for his acting career.[13][14] Rance Howard was serving three years in the United States Air Force at the time of Ron's birth.[15][16] The family moved to Hollywood in 1958, the year before the birth of his younger brother Clint Howard. They rented a house on the block south of the Desilu Studios, where *The Andy Griffith Show* was later filmed. They lived in Hollywood for at least three years, before moving to Burbank.

Howard was tutored at Desilu Studios in his younger years but continued his schooling at Robert Louis Stevenson Elementary and David Star Jordan Junior High when not working in television, eventually graduating from John Burroughs High School. He later attended the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts but did not graduate.[17][18]

Howard has said he knew from a young age he might want to go into directing, thanks to his early experience as an actor.[19][20]

Acting career

In 1959, Howard had his first credited film role in *The Journey*. He appeared in June Allyson's CBS anthology series *The DuPont Show with June Allyson* in the episode "Child Lost"; in *The Twilight Zone* episode "Walking Distance"; a few episodes of the first season of the sitcom *Dennis the Menace*, as

Stewart, one of Dennis's friends; and several first- and second-season episodes of *The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis*. Howard played "Timmy" (uncredited) in "Counterfeit Gun", Season 4, Episode 2 (1960) of the TV series, *The Cheyenne Show*.

With Cara Williams in *Pete and Gladys* (1960)

The Andy Griffith Show

In 1960, Howard was cast as Opie Taylor in *The Andy Griffith Show*. Credited as "Ronny Howard," he portrayed the son of the title character (played by Andy Griffith) for all eight seasons of the show. Recalling his experiences as a child actor on set, he commented

> I was five years old. And I was preoccupied with the prop that was in my hand, because it was a toy turtle. But I had to pretend it was a real turtle that the audience just wasn't seeing, and it was dead, so I was supposed to be crying and very emotional, and I remember him looking at that little turtle and talking to me about how it was kind of funny to have to pretend that was dead. So I recall just a very relaxed first impression.[21]

With Andy Griffith as Opie in a publicity photo for *The Andy Griffith Show* (1961)

Additional 1960s and early 1970s roles

In the 1962 film version of *The Music Man*, Howard played Winthrop Paroo, the child with the lisp; the film starred Robert Preston and Shirley Jones. He also starred in the 1963 film *The Courtship of Eddie's Father* with Glenn Ford and Jones.

He appeared as Barry Stewart on *The Eleventh Hour* in 1965; on *I Spy* in the 1966 episode "Little Boy Lost"; as Henry Fonda's son in an ABC series, *The Smith Family*, in 1968; as Jodah in "Land of the Giants" in 1969; as a boy whose father was shot on *Daniel Boone* in 1971–72; and as an underage Marine on *M*A*S*H* in the episode "Sometimes You Hear the Bullet" in 1973. In the 1970s, he appeared in at least one episode of *The Bold Ones*, as a teenage tennis player with an illness.

Richie (Ron Howard) takes a turn on Fonzie's (Henry Winkler) motorcycle in a scene from *Happy Days*

Howard appeared on the 1969 Disneyland Records album *The Story and Song from the Haunted Mansion*. It featured the story of two teenagers, Mike (Howard) and Karen (Robie Lester), who get trapped inside the Haunted Mansion. Thurl Ravenscroft plays the Narrator, Pete Reneday plays the Ghost Host, and Eleanor Audley plays Madame Leota. Some of the effects and ideas that were planned but never permanently made it to the attraction are mentioned here: the Raven speaks in the Stretching Room, and the Hatbox Ghost is mentioned during the Attic scene. It was reissued in 1998 as a cassette tape titled *A Spooky Night in Disney's Haunted Mansion* and on CD in 2009.

Howard played Steve Bolander in George Lucas' coming-of-age film *American Graffiti* in 1973,[1] which was the inspiration for the television series *Happy Days* starring Howard.

In 1974, Howard guest-starred as Seth Turner, the best friend of Jason Walton (Jon Walmsley), in *The Waltons* episode, "The Gift". Featured in the cast as Dr. McIvers is Ron Howard's father Rance Howard.[22]

In 1976, Howard starred alongside John Wayne and Lauren Bacall in Don Siegel's *The Shootist*, the story of a Western gunfighter dying of cancer. The movie was Wayne's last although it's not true that he had cancer during the shooting of the picture; Wayne died three years later.

Happy Days

A role in an installment of series *Love, American Style*, titled "Love and the Television Set",[23] led to his being cast as Richie Cunningham in the TV series *Happy Days* (for syndication, the segment was re-titled "Love and the Happy Days"). Beginning in 1974, he played the likeable "buttoned-down" boy, in contrast to Henry Winkler's "greaser" Arthur "Fonzie"/"The Fonz" Fonzarelli. On the *Happy Days* set, he developed an on- and off-screen chemistry with Winkler.[24] Howard left *Happy Days* to become a film director just before the start of its eighth season in 1980, but returned for guest appearances in later seasons.[24][25]

Directing career

1970s–1980s

Before leaving *Happy Days* in 1980, Howard made his directing debut with the 1977 low-budget comedy/action film *Grand Theft Auto*, based on a script he co-wrote with his father, Rance.[1] This came after cutting a deal with Roger Corman, wherein Corman let Howard direct a film in exchange for Howard starring in *Eat My Dust!*, with Christopher Norris.[1] Howard went on to direct several TV movies for NBC between 1978 and 1982, including the 1980 TV movie, *Skyward*, starring Bette Davis.[1] His big directorial break came in 1982, with *Night Shift*, featuring Michael Keaton, Shelley Long, and Howard's *Happy Days* co-star Henry Winkler.[1]

Following *Night Shift*, Howard directed a number of major films, including the fantasy romantic comedy *Splash* (1984) starring Tom Hanks, Daryl Hannah, Eugene Levy, and John Candy. The film was a box office and critical success. He also directed the science fiction comedy drama *Cocoon* (1985) starring Don Ameche, Hume Cronyn, Wilford Brimley, and Brian Dennehy. This film was also a critical and financial hit. In 1988, he directed the dark fantasy drama film *Willow* starring Val Kilmer and Warwick Davis. Howard's final work as a director for the 1980s was the family comedy film *Parenthood* (1989) starring an ensemble cast that includes Steve Martin, Tom Hulce, Rick Moranis, Martha Plimpton, Joaquin Phoenix, Keanu Reeves, Jason Robards, Mary Steenburgen, and Dianne Wiest. The film opened at #1 in its opening weekend, earning $10 million. It eventually grossed over $100 million domestically and $126 million worldwide.[26] The film was a critical hit and received two Academy Award nominations.

1990s

Howard continued directing through the 1990s, including the American drama *Backdraft* revolving around firefighters. The film starred Kurt Russell, Donald Sutherland, and Robert De Niro. Film critics Gene Siskel of the *Chicago Tribune*[27] and Roger Ebert of the *Chicago Sun-Times* gave the film a positive review.[28]

In 1992, he directed the western film epic *Far and Away* starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. Despite receiving mixed reviews from critics the film was a financial success earning 137 million against its budget of 60 million. In 1994, Howard directed the newspaper comedy drama *The Paper* with an ensemble starring Michael Keaton, Glenn Close, Marisa Tomei, Jason Alexander, Jason Robards, and Robert Duvall. The film received rave reviews with many praising Keaton's leading performance.

Howard with Tom Hanks and the production crew of *Apollo 13* (1995)

Howard's direction for the 1995 docudrama film *Apollo 13* received praise from critics.[29][30][31][32] The film stars Tom Hanks, Kevin Bacon, and Bill Paxton as the three astronauts members of the Apollo 13 flight crew, with supporting performances from Gary Sinise, Ed Harris, and Kathleen Quinlan. The film was a massive financial success earning $335 million off a budget of $52 million. The film received widespread critical acclaim with Roger Ebert of the *Chicago Sun-Times* praised the film in his review saying: "A powerful story, one of the year's best films, told with great clarity and remarkable technical detail, and acted without pumped-up histrionics."[33] The film went on to receive nine Academy Award nominations including Best Picture.

2000s

In 2000, he directed the live action children's fantasy film, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* based on the Dr. Seuss children's book. The film starred Jim Carrey as the titular character and featured performances from Jeffrey Tambor, Christine Baranski, and Molly Shannon, with Anthony Hopkins serving as the film's narrator. Despite the film receiving mixed reviews from critics, it was a financial success and earned $345 million at the box office.

Howard's followup film was the biographical drama film *A Beautiful Mind* starring Russell Crowe as the American mathematician John Nash who struggled with paranoid schizophrenia. The film featured performances from Jennifer Connelly, Ed Harris, Josh Lucas, and Christopher Plummer. The film received positive reviews from critics who praised Crowe's and Connelly's performances. The film went on to receive eight Academy Award nominations including a win for Best Picture and a nomination and win for Howard as Best Director.

In 2005, Howard directed the biographical sports drama *Cinderella Man* based on the true story of heavyweight boxing champion James J. Braddock played by Russell Crowe. The film also starred Renée Zellweger as his wife Mae Braddock, and Paul Giamatti as his trainer Joe Gould. Rotten Tomatoes gave it an approval rating of 80% based on reviews from 214 critics with an average score of 7.4/10. Its consensus states, "With grittiness and an evocative sense of time and place, *Cinderella Man* is a powerful underdog story. And Ron Howard and Russell Crowe prove to be a solid combination."[34]

Howard is also known for directing the Robert Langdon films. The series began with *The Da Vinci Code* (2006) with Tom Hanks as Langdon, featuring performances by Audrey Tautou, Ian McKellen, and Alfred Molina. The sequel was *Angels & Demons* (2009) with Hanks reprising his role and performances by Ewan McGregor and Stellan Skarsgård. In 2016, *Inferno* was released with Hanks continuing the role with performances by Felicity Jones, Irrfan Khan, and Omar Sy. All three films received mixed reviews but were popular among audiences.

Howard showcased the world premiere of his historical drama film *Frost/Nixon* at the London Film Festival in October 2008.[35] The film is based on the taped conversations known as the Frost/Nixon interviews between former United States President Richard Nixon and British talk show host David Frost. Frank

Langella portrayed Nixon opposite Michael Sheen as Frost. The film was based on the play of the same name by Peter Morgan. The film also featured performances from Mathew Macfadyen, Sam Rockwell, Rebecca Hall, Oliver Platt, Toby Jones, and Kevin Bacon. Despite losing money at the box office, the film was a critical success with website Rotten Tomatoes giving the film an approval rating of 93% with the critical consensus reading, "*Frost/Nixon* is weighty and eloquent; a cross between a boxing match and a ballet with Oscar worthy performances."[36] Metacritic gives the film an average score of 80 out of 100, based on 38 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".[37] The film received 5 Academy Award nominations with Howard receiving a nomination for Best Director.

Howard was the recipient of the Austin Film Festival's 2009 Extraordinary Contribution to Filmmaking Award. Michael Keaton presented him with the Award.

2010s

In 2013, Howard directed sports drama *Rush*, based on the Hunt–Lauda rivalry between two Formula One drivers, the British James Hunt and the Austrian Niki Lauda during the 1976 Formula 1 motor-racing season. It was written by Peter Morgan and starred Chris Hemsworth as Hunt, Daniel Brühl as Lauda, and Olivia Wilde as Suzy Miller. The film premiered at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival and received positive reviews from critics.

In 2015, Howard directed the film *In the Heart of the Sea* about the sinking of the American whaling ship Essex in 1820, an event that inspired Herman Melville's 1851 novel *Moby-Dick*. The film featured performances by Chris Hemsworth, Cillian Murphy, Tom Holland, Ben Whishaw, and Brendan Gleeson. The film was a financial failure and received mixed reviews.

Howard and the cast at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival

Howard took over directing duties on *Solo: A Star Wars Story*, a film featuring *Star Wars* character Han Solo in his younger years. The film was released on May 23, 2018. Howard officially replaced directors Phil Lord and Christopher Miller on June 22, 2017; they were let go from their position two days earlier, reportedly due to their refusal to compromise with Lucasfilm over the direction of the film; reportedly the directors encouraged significant improvisations by the actors, which was believed by some at Lucasfilm to be "shifting the story off-course".[38] At the time, the film was nearly completed, with three and a half weeks left to film and another five weeks of reshoots scheduled.[38] Howard posted on Twitter, "I'm beyond grateful to add my voice to the *Star Wars* Universe after being a fan since 5/25/77. I hope to honor the great work already done & help deliver on the promise of a Han Solo film."[39]

In November 2017, Howard announced that he would be teaching his first directing class.[40]

2020s

On November 24, 2020, Howard's drama film *Hillbilly Elegy* was released on Netflix. The film is based on the memoir of the same name by J. D. Vance and was adapted for the screen by Vanessa Taylor. The film stars Academy Award nominees Glenn Close and Amy Adams. The film has received widespread negative reception from critics but was received well by general audiences, with an 83% user approval on Rotten Tomatoes.[41][42]

In March 2021, Howard began filming the survival drama *Thirteen Lives*, a film based on the Tham Luang cave rescue in 2018.[43][44][45] It was released in select theaters on July 29, 2022, by United Artists Releasing, and began streaming on Prime Video on August 5, 2022. The film received generally positive reviews from critics.

Imagine Entertainment

Howard is the co-chairman, with Brian Grazer, of Imagine Entertainment, a film and television production company. Imagine has produced several films including *Friday Night Lights*, *8 Mile*, and *Inside Deep Throat*, as well as the television series *24*, *Felicity*, *The PJs* and *Arrested Development* which Howard also narrated and later appeared in as himself.

In July 2012, it was announced that Imagine had put into development *Conquest* for Showtime, a period drama based on the 16th century conquest of the Aztecs by Spanish Conquistadors. To be directed by Howard, the series was originally planned as a feature film before it was decided that the project was more suited to television.[46]

As part of Imagine Entertainment, he appeared in a 1997 print ad for Milk – Where's *your* mustache?, in which he wore a cap for Imagine Entertainment and sported a milk mustache. Earlier versions show a younger Ronny Howard on the other side.

In 2009, he appeared in the Jamie Foxx music video "Blame It".

Personal life

Howard married his high school sweetheart, Cheryl Alley (born December 23, 1953), a writer, on June 7, 1975.[47][48][49] They have four children: daughters Bryce Dallas (born March 2, 1981), twins Jocelyn Carlyle and Paige Carlyle (born February 5, 1985), and son Reed Cross (born April 13, 1987).

Filmography

Film

Year	Title	Director	Producer	Writer
1977	*Grand Theft Auto*	Yes	No	Yes
1982	*Night Shift*	Yes	No	No
1984	*Splash*	Yes	No	No
1985	*Cocoon*	Yes	No	No
1986	*Gung Ho*	Yes	Yes	No
1988	*Willow*	Yes	No	No
1989	*Parenthood*	Yes	No	Story
1991	*Backdraft*	Yes	No	No
1992	*Far and Away*	Yes	Yes	Story
1994	*The Paper*	Yes	No	No
1995	*Apollo 13*	Yes	No	No
1996	*Ransom*	Yes	No	No
1999	*EDtv*	Yes	Yes	No
2000	*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*	Yes	Yes	No
2001	*A Beautiful Mind*	Yes	Yes	No
2003	*The Missing*	Yes	Yes	No
2005	*Cinderella Man*	Yes	Yes	No
2006	*The Da Vinci Code*	Yes	Yes	No
2008	*Frost/Nixon*	Yes	Yes	No
2009	*Angels & Demons*	Yes	Yes	No
2011	*The Dilemma*	Yes	Yes	No
2013	*Rush*	Yes	Yes	No
2015	*In the Heart of the Sea*	Yes	Yes	No
2016	*Inferno*	Yes	Yes	No
2018	*Solo: A Star Wars Story*	Yes	No	No
2020	*Hillbilly Elegy*	Yes	Yes	No
2022	*Thirteen Lives*	Yes	Yes	No

Executive producer **Producer**

- *Leo and Loree* (1980)
- *No Man's Land* (1987)
- *Vibes* (1988)
- *The 'Burbs* (1989)
- *The Doors* (1991) (Uncredited)
- *Closet Land* (1991)
- *Curious George 2: Follow That Monkey!* (2010)
- *Curious George 3: Back to the Jungle* (2015)
- *Backdraft 2* (2019)
- *Curious George: Cape Ahoy* (2021)
- *Wedding Season* (2022)
- *Clean and Sober* (1988)
- *The Chamber* (1996)
- *Inventing the Abbotts* (1997)
- *The Alamo* (2004)
- *Curious George* (2006)
- *Restless* (2011)
- *Cowboys & Aliens* (2011)
- *The Good Lie* (2014)
- *The Dark Tower* (2017)
- *Tick, Tick... Boom!* (2021)

As actor

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1956	*Frontier Woman*	Bit Part	Uncredited
1959	*The Journey*	Billy Rhinelander	Credited as Ronny Howard
1959	*Walking Distance*	Boy with marbles	
1961	*Five Minutes to Live*	Bobby	
1962	*The Music Man*	Winthrop Paroo	
1963	*The Courtship of Eddie's Father*	Eddie	
1965	*Village of the Giants*	Genius	
1969	*Land of the Giants*	Jodar	
1970	*The Wild Country*	Virgil Tanner	
1973	*American Graffiti*	Steve Bolander	
	Happy Mother's Day, Love George	Johnny	
1974	*The Spikes Gang*	Les Richter	
1976	*The First Nudie Musical*	Auditioning actor	Uncredited
	Eat My Dust!	Hoover Niebold	
	The Shootist	Gillom Rogers	
1977	*Grand Theft Auto*	Sam Freeman	
1979	*More American Graffiti*	Steve Bolander	
1982	*Night Shift*	Annoying Sax Player Boy making out with girlfriend	Uncredited cameos
1998	*Welcome to Hollywood*	Himself	

2000	*The Independent*	Himself	
	How the Grinch Stole Christmas	Whoville Townsperson	Uncredited
2001	*Osmosis Jones*	Tom Colonic	Voice role
	A Beautiful Mind	Man at Governor's Ball	Uncredited
2013	*From Up on Poppy Hill*	Philosophy Club's president	Voice role
2016	*Donald Trump's The Art of the Deal: The Movie*	Himself	
2022	*Scream*	Principal Himbry (*Stab*)	Uncredited – image appearance

Documentary films

Year	Title	Director	Producer	Himself
1992	*The Magical World of Chuck Jones*	Yes	No	Yes
1998	*One Vision*	No	No	Yes
1999	*Beyond the Mat*	No	Yes	No
2004	*Tell Them Who You Are*	No	No	Yes
2005	*Inside Deep Throat*	No	uncredited	No
2007	*In the Shadow of the Moon*	No	No	Yes
2012	*Katy Perry: Part of Me*	No	Yes	No
2013	*Made in America*	Yes	No	Yes
2016	*The Beatles: Eight Days a Week*	Yes	Yes	No
2019	*Pavarotti*	Yes	Yes	No
	Dads	No	No	Yes
2020	*Rebuilding Paradise*	Yes	Yes	No
	Breakthrough: Virus Fighters	Yes	Yes	No
2021	*Paper & Glue*	No	Yes	No
	Julia	No	Yes	No
2022	*Lucy and Desi*	No	Yes	No
	We Feed People[50]	Yes	Yes	No

Short films

Year	Title	Director	Producer	Actor	Role	Notes
1969	*Old Paint*	No	Yes	No		Credited as Ronny Howard
	Deed of Daring-Do	No	Yes	No		
	Cards, Cads, Guns, Gore and Death	No	Yes	No		

2011	*The Death and Return of Superman*	No	No	Yes	Max's Son	
	When You Find Me	Yes	No	No		

Television

Year	Title	Director	Executive producer	Writer	Notes
1978	*Cotton Candy*	Yes	No	Yes	TV Movie
1980	*Skyward*	Yes	Yes	No	
1981	*Through the Magic Pyramid*	Yes	Yes	No	
1983	*Littleshots*	Yes	Yes	No	
2017	*Genius*	Yes	Yes	No	Pilot episode

Executive producer

Producer

Year	Title	Role
1998	*From the Earth to the Moon*	Miniseries
1999	*Student Affairs*	TV movie
2000	*Wonderland*	
2015–present	*Breakthrough*	

Year	Title	Role
1981	*Skyward Christmas*	TV movie
1983	*When Your Lover Leaves*	
1984–1985	*Maximum Security*	
1985	*No Greater Gift*	TV special
	Into Thin Air	TV movie
1986	*The Lone-Star Kid*	
1987	*Take Five*	
1988	*Poison*	
1999	*Mulholland Drive*	
1990–1991	*Parenthood*	
1998–2000	*Sports Night*	
1998–2002	*Felicity*	
1999–2001	*The PJs*	
2000	*Silicon Follies*	TV movie
2001	*The Beast*	
2003	*The Snobs*	
2006–present	*Curious George*	
2010–2015	*Parenthood*	
2012	*The Great Escape*	
2003–2006; 2013, 2018–2019	*Arrested Development*	
2014	*Unsung Heroes*	TV documentary
2016–2018	*Mars*	
2020	*68 Whiskey*	
2021	*Crime Scene: The Vanishing at the Cecil Hotel*	Docu-series
2021	*Crime Scene: The Times Square Killer*	Docu-series
2022	*Under the Banner of Heaven*	

2022	*Light & Magic*	Docu-series
2022	Willow	Upcoming series

Actor

Year	Title	Role	Notes
1959	*Johnny Ringo*	Ricky Parrot	Episode: "The Accused"
	Five Fingers	—	Episode: "Station Break"
	The Twilight Zone	Wilcox Boy	Episode: "Walking Distance"
	The DuPont Show with June Allyson	Wim Wegless	Episode: "Child Lost"
	Dennis the Menace	Stewart	6 episodes
	The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis	Various roles	4 episodes
	General Electric Theater	Barnaby Baxter/Randy	2 episodes:
	Hennesey	Walker	Episode: "The Baby Sitter"
1960	*The Danny Thomas Show*	Opie Taylor	Episode: "Danny Meets Andy Griffith"
	Cheyenne	Timmy	Episode: "Counterfeit Gun"; uncredited
	Pete and Gladys	Tommy	Episode: "The Goat Story"
1960–1968	*The Andy Griffith Show*	Opie Taylor	credited as Ronnie Howard
1962	*Route 66*	Chet Duncan	Episode: "Poor Little Kangaroo Rat"
	The New Breed	Tommy Simms	Episode: "So Dark the Night"
1963	*The Eleventh Hour*	Barry Stewart	Episode: "Is Mr. Martian Coming Back?"
1964	*The Great Adventure*	Daniel Waterhouse	Episode: "Plague"
	Dr. Kildare	Jerry Prentice	Episode: "A Candle in the Window"
	The Fugitive	Gus	Episode: "Cry Uncle"
1965	*The Big Valley*	Tommy	Episode: "Night of the Wolf"
1966	*Gomer Pyle, U.S.M.C.*	Opie Taylor	Episode: "Opie Joins the Marines"
	I Spy	Alan Loden	Episode: "Little Boy Lost"
1967	*The Monroes*	Timothy Prescott	Episode: "Teaching the Tiger to Purr"
	Gentle Ben	Jody Cutler	Episode: "Green-Eyed Bear"

1968	*Mayberry R.F.D.*	Opie Taylor	Episode: "Andy and Helen Get Married"
	The Archie Show	Archie Andrews	Early Pilot Cartoon
	The F.B.I. (TV series)	Jess Orkin	Episode: "The Runaways"
	Lancer (TV series)	Turk Caudle/Willy	2 episodes
1969	*Judd for the Defense*	Phil Beeton	Episode: "Between the Dark and the Daylight"
	Daniel Boone	Luke	Episode: "A Man Before His Time"
	Gunsmoke	Jamie	Episode: "Charlie Noon"
	Land of the Giants	Jodar	Episode: "Genius At Work"
1970	*Smoke*	Chris	TV Movie
	The Headmaster	Tony Landis	Season 1 - Episode 6
	Lassie	Gary	Episode: "Gary Here Comes Glory!" Part 1 & 2
1971–1972	*The Smith Family*	Bob Smith	
1972	*Love, American Style*	Richard "Richie" Cunningham	Episode: "Love and the Happy Days"
	The Bold Ones: The New Doctors	Cory Merlino	Episode: "Discovery at Fourteen"
	Bonanza	Ted Hoag	Episode: "The Initiation"
1973	*M*A*S*H*	Private Walter Wendell Peterson	Episode: "Sometimes You Hear the Bullet"
1974	*The Waltons*	Seth Turner	Episode: "The Gift"
1974–1984	*Happy Days*	Richard "Richie" Cunningham	
1974	*Locusts*	Donny Fletcher	Television Movie
	The Migrants	Lyle Barlow	
1975	*Huckleberry Finn*	Huckleberry Finn	
1975–1981	*Insight*	Connie/Joe	2 episodes
1976	*Laverne & Shirley*	Richie Cunningham	2 episodes
	I'm a Fool	Andy	TV Movie
1980	*The Fonz and the Happy Days Gang*	Richie Cunningham	Voice role; Episode: "King for a Day"
	Act of Love	Leon Cybulkowski	Television Movie
1981	*Bitter Harvest*	Ned De Vries	
	Fire on the Mountain	Lee Mackie	
1983	*When Your Lover Leaves*	—	Television Movie; Uncredited
1986	*Return to Mayberry*	Opie Taylor	Television Movie
1988	*Channel 99*	Himself	
1998–1999	*The Simpsons*	Himself	Voice role; 2 episodes

1999	*Frasier*	Stephen	Voice role; Episode: "Good Samaritan"
2003–2006; 2013; 2018– 2019	*Arrested Development*	Narrator; Self	
2016	*The Odd Couple*	Stanley	Episode: "Taffy Days"
2017	*This Is Us*	Himself	3 Episodes

Awards and nominations

Year	Title	Academy Awards		BAFTA Awards		Golden Globe Awards	
		Nominations	Wins	Nominations	Wins	Nominations	Wins
1982	*Night Shift*					1	
1984	*Splash*	1				1	
1985	*Cocoon*	2	2			1	
1988	*Willow*	1					
1989	*Parenthood*	2				1	
1991	*Backdraft*	3		1			
1994	*The Paper*	1					
1995	*Apollo 13*	9	2	5	2	4	
1996	*Ransom*					1	
2000	*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*	3	1	1	1	1	
2001	*A Beautiful Mind*	8	4	5	2	6	4
2005	*Cinderella Man*	3		1		2	
2006	*The Da Vinci Code*					1	
2008	*Frost/Nixon*	5		6		5	
2013	*Rush*			4	1	2	
2018	*Solo: A Star Wars Story*	1					
2020	*Hillbilly Elegy*	2		1		1	
Total		**41**	**9**	**24**	**6**	**27**	**4**

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